



APERCA Final ST-ESCOs conference, Barcelona, June 2007

On 27th June 2007 the final meeting was held for the ST-ESCOs European project here in Barcelona, organised by the Catalan Renewable Energies Association - APERCA.

The project aims to promote the establishment of pilot Energy Service Companies in the field of Solar Thermal energy sales to third parties, with a particular accent on a high replication potential using the analytical and financial framework provided by the project partners.

The main advantage with this system is that the final user - usually hospitals, hotels and sports facilities amongst others - does not have to invest in the equipment itself but buys the energy produced from the Energy Service Company, which is responsible for guaranteeing the installation and maintenance of the solar plant.

During the meeting, APERCA targets and results were recapped and discussed.

Aiguasol Engineering presented their contribution to the project: a programme created specifically to provide a dynamic simulation for potential installations and their economic viability.

The Murcia Regional Energy Agency - co-ordinating partner for the ST-ESCOs project in Spain - together with Wagner Solar expounded on their experience with the solar plant now undergoing installation at the Morales Meseguer Hospital in Murcia.

The ST-ESCOs system has already been applied around Europe, with a variety of solar plants running. Recent experience in Spain includes the Sabadell Tennis Club plant, carried out by Pasch, who are presently involved in installing a second plant at the Terrassa Sports Club. Gamesa Solar provided further information on the installation at the Reus Sports Club and the results for the first months in operation.

Key aspects pointed out by participating companies were analysed during at the open discussion, with a particular accent on plant performance, and all present agreed on the need to continue at the forefront of novel strategies aiming towards a more generalised implementation of Renewable Energy technologies with a view to reducing fossil fuel consumption and dependence.

ST-ESCOs

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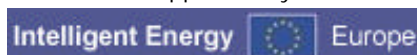
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Solar Thermal Energy Service Companies

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